

and bloody divisions. It can be done, and the United States stands ready to help.

We must do all we can to help civil societies free themselves from the shackles of repression, to sustain their fragile democracies, and to defeat the forces of destruction that threaten all of us. That's why America stands with Nelson Mandela and the South African people through economic assistance, through trade and investment to help them to build the thriving democracy they so richly deserve, and why we're working to help the Haitian people stand up and reclaim their freedom and their future, too.

Now I'd like to ask President Mandela to speak with you.

[At this point, President Mandela discussed his visit to the United States and thanked the American people for their friendship.]

President Clinton. Thank you, Mr. President. This week I pledged to President Mandela that the United States will continue to support his nation just as we have since before his election. And I want to encourage all of our citizens and especially our businesses to accept the President's invitation to invest, to build in his country, to visit his country. A flourishing South Africa involved in the rest of the world is in our interest.

President Mandela was right the other day when he called the transformation of his country an achievement of all humanity. The kind of peaceful development we're seeing in South Africa will inspire progress all around the world. Now South Africa is a model for building the open, tolerant societies that share our values. And when we look around the world at the stirring changes in Russia, the moving developments in Northern Ireland, the stunning achievements of the peace initiatives in the Middle East, we see the prospects for democracy and peace growing. Our mission is to build a new world for our children, more democratic, more prosperous, more free of ancient hatreds and modern means of destruction. This is no easy task. But more nations than ever are choosing democracy, and more are embracing the values of tolerance that allow each of us to make the most of our God-given potential. Freedom is on the march, and that is good news for all of us.

Once again, let me thank the symbol of freedom for the world, President Mandela, for visiting us here in the United States. And thank you all for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 4:53 p.m. on October 7 in the East Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on October 8.

Remarks on Iraq

October 8, 1994

Before I leave today I just wanted to say one thing. I have been briefed by the National Security Advisor on the situation in Iraq. We have discussed the measures I have ordered to deal with the situation. And I want to make it clear one more time, it would be a grave error for Iraq to repeat the mistakes of the past or to misjudge either American will or American power.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:05 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House, prior to his departure for Camp David, MD.

Statement on California Desert Legislation

October 8, 1994

Today's passage of the California desert bill is a clear-cut victory for the people of California and everyone across America who cares about this Nation's great natural heritage. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Senator Dianne Feinstein for her tireless efforts to bring together a bipartisan coalition in Congress that ensured its passage.

The passage of this important environmental legislation is a testament to Dianne Feinstein's skillful leadership, perseverance, and determination to do the right thing for the people of California.

Proclamation 6738—National School Lunch Week, 1994

October 8, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Sound nutrition plays a vital role in ensuring that children reach their full potential physically, emotionally, and intellectually. Our commitment to the National School Lunch Program reflects the importance of nutrition in our daily lives.

As we celebrate National School Lunch Week this year, we reaffirm our concern for the health of our Nation by continuing to press forward in our comprehensive initiative requiring that school meals meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Through this initiative, we will update the standards for school meals to reflect the most recent scientific consensus calling for low fat, high fiber foods to help reduce the likelihood of such life-threatening illnesses as cancer and heart disease. We also will help to instill eating habits that promote lifelong health and well-being, and we will rededicate ourselves to delivering school meals that meet the highest possible standards for nutritional quality and appeal.

The National School Lunch Program currently operates in more than 95 percent of the Nation's public schools and serves about 25 million lunches daily. Many children receive their only nutritious meal of the day at school. These school means can increase a student's attention span and learning capability. They can improve overall health. And they can help to teach good dietary habits that will last a lifetime. These accomplishments are made possible by the joint efforts of principals, teachers, parents, Federal, State, and local officials, and especially the food service professionals working in more than 92,000 schools and residential child care institutions across the country. We commend all of these individuals for their concern and their dedication in making wholesome meals a reality for our Nation's children.

In recognition of the contributions of the National School Lunch Program to the nutritional well-being of children, the Congress,

by joint resolution of October 9, 1962 (Public Law No. 87-780), has designated the week beginning the second Sunday in October of each year as "National School Lunch Week" and has requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that week.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning October 9, 1994, as National School Lunch Week. I call upon all Americans to recognize those individuals whose efforts contribute to the success of this valuable program.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:51 a.m., October 12, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 10, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on October 13.

Address to the Nation on Iraq

October 10, 1994

Good evening. Tonight I want to speak with you about the actions we are taking to preserve stability in the Persian Gulf in the face of Saddam Hussein's provocative actions. But first, let me take just a minute to report to you on today's events in Haiti.

Three weeks ago today our troops entered Haiti. They went there to keep America's and the world community's commitment to restore the democratically elected government to power by October 15th. Today, Lieutenant General Cédras and Brigadier General Biamby, the two remaining coup leaders, have resigned. They have said they will leave Haiti shortly. I am pleased to announce that President Aristide will return home to resume his rightful place this Saturday, October 15th.

I want to express again my pride in what our men and women in uniform have done in Haiti and how well they have measured